

Senate Concurrent Resolution

No. 85

Introduced by Senator Alquist

January 19, 2006

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 85—Relative to American Stroke Month.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SCR 85, as amended, Alquist. American Stroke Month 2006.

This measure would recognize May 2006 as American Stroke Month in California, and would urge all California citizens to familiarize themselves with the warning signs, symptoms, and risk factors associated with stroke.

Fiscal committee: no.

1 WHEREAS, On average, someone in the United States has a
2 stroke every 45 seconds; and

3 WHEREAS, On average, every three minutes someone in the
4 United States dies of a stroke; and

5 WHEREAS, Stroke is the third leading cause of death in the
6 United States, striking approximately 700,000 Americans each
7 year; and

8 WHEREAS, Stroke leads to the deaths of more than 18,000
9 Californians each year; and

10 WHEREAS, In ~~2004~~, 2005, the *estimated* direct and indirect
11 costs attributable to stroke in the United States exceeded ~~\$53~~
12 \$56.8 billion; and

13 WHEREAS, The majority of Americans are unaware of their
14 risk factors for a stroke, nor are they aware of the signs and
15 symptoms of an impending stroke; and

1 WHEREAS, Warning signs of stroke include sudden
2 numbness or weakness of the face, arm, or leg, especially on one
3 side of the body, sudden confusion, trouble speaking or
4 understanding, sudden trouble seeing in one or both eyes, sudden
5 trouble walking, dizziness, loss of balance or coordination, and
6 sudden severe headache with no known cause; and

7 WHEREAS, The American Stroke Association, a division of
8 the American Heart Association, strives to reduce disability and
9 death from stroke through research, education, fundraising, and
10 advocacy; and

11 WHEREAS, The American Stroke Association is celebrating
12 May 2006 as American Stroke Month in California; and

13 WHEREAS, *The theme for American Stroke Month 2006 will*
14 *give “Time Lost Equals Brain Lost,” offers advocates for stroke*
15 *awareness an opportunity to educate the public and policymakers*
16 *about the devastating effects of stroke; and*

17 *WHEREAS, The American Stroke Association’s Power To End*
18 *Stroke Campaign urges members of our communities to*
19 *familiarize themselves with the warning signs, symptoms, and*
20 *risk factors associated with stroke to reduce the devastating*
21 *effects a stroke has on the entire community; and*

22 *WHEREAS, The American Stroke Association has committed*
23 *itself to educating the African-American community about the*
24 *increased risk of stroke, and how to prevent it, with its new*
25 *campaign, “The Power To End Stroke . . . You are the Power;”*
26 *and*

27 WHEREAS, New and effective treatments have been
28 developed to treat and minimize the severity and damaging
29 effects of stroke, but much more research is needed; now,
30 therefore, be it

31 *Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, the Assembly*
32 *thereof concurring, That the month of May 2006 shall be*
33 *recognized as American Stroke Month in California in order to*
34 *raise awareness of the effects of stroke; and be it further*

35 *Resolved, That the Legislature urges all California citizens to*
36 *familiarize themselves with the warning signs, symptoms, and*
37 *risk factors associated with stroke so that we might begin to*
38 *reduce the devastating effects strokes have on our population;*
39 *and be it further*

- 1 *Resolved*, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of
- 2 this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.

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